

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A holding device for holding an item in connection with hardening of the item under elevated pressure in a pressure tank, comprising:

at least one support element each of which at least partially surrounds the lateral surfaces of the item and are arranged to support the item during hardening,

at least one of the support elements being arranged in relation to the item in such a way that the support element presses, in a first region along its length, against the item with a pressure that is elevated relative to the pressure-tank pressure and, in a second region along its length, presses against the item with a pressure that is lower relative to the pressure-tank pressure, wherein the support element in the second region lies in abutment with the item essentially without exerting any pressure on the item, and the support element is fixedly arranged in the holding device at a pivot point.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A holding device according to claim 1, wherein the support element that is arranged along its length to exert different levels of pressure against the item is arranged in abutment with at least one of the corners of the item.

5. (Previously Presented) A holding device according to claim 1, wherein it is arranged to hold an item containing a core and a beam frame surrounding a core and including at least two beams for gluing the core to the beam frame and gluing the beams to one another, whereupon the support elements are arranged to press the beams toward one another and lie in abutment with the item essentially without exerting any pressure against the item where the core is to be glued to the beam frame.

6. (Currently Amended) A holding device according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein the pivot point is chosen so that the pressure in the first region is roughly 2-4 times higher than the pressure in the pressure tank.

7. (Withdrawn) A method for hardening together an item containing at least a core and a beam frame surrounding a core and including at least two beams comprising: gluing the core to the beam frame and gluing the beams of the beam frame to one another, arranging the unhardened item on an underlayer, applying support elements around the item to hold it together, the support elements to exert a differentiated pressure on the item, and introducing the unhardened item, on its underlayer and with the supporting elements, into a pressure tank for hardening.

8. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 7, wherein the support elements are caused to exert a pressure that is elevated relative to the pressure-tank pressure on the surfaces that are pressing the beams toward one another and lie in abutment with the item essentially without pressure on surfaces where the beams are glued to the core.